

Application Ser. No.: 10/075,635
Filing Date: February 13, 2002
Examiner: Coleman, Brenda Libby

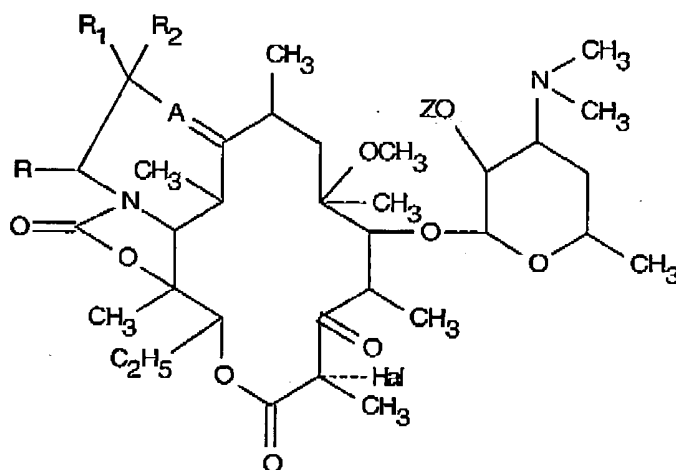
Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims set forth below with amendments as indicated will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. - 13. (Canceled)

14. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I):



(I);

wherein:

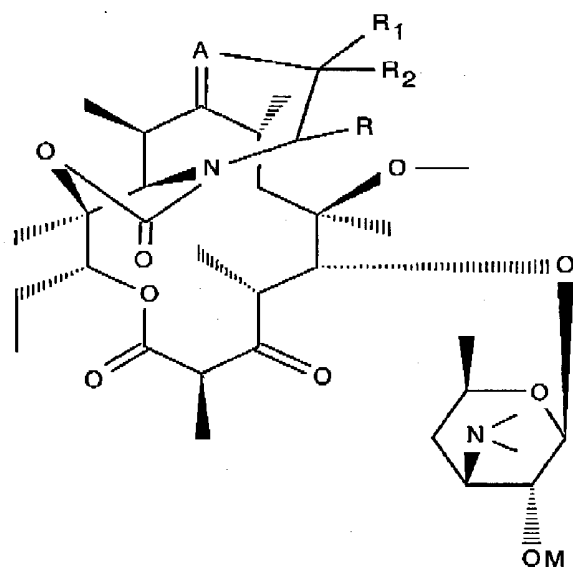
A is nitrogen or N→O;

Hal is halogen;

R₁ and R₂ are the same or different and are independently chosen from hydrogen or C₁-C₁₈alkyl;

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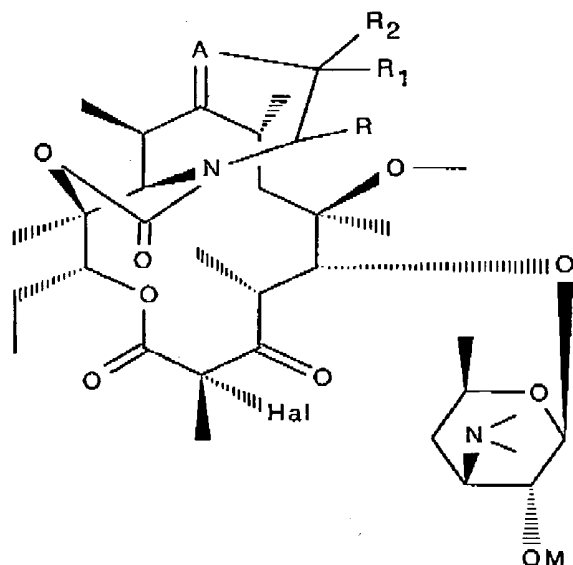
R is $-(CH_2)_mOB$; wherein
m is an integer from 1 to 8; and
B is hydrogen, $-COAr$ or $-(CH_2)_n-Ar$; wherein
n is an integer from 1 to 8; and
Ar is a mono- or polycyclic aryl or heteroaryl;
Z is hydrogen or C_1-C_{18} -acyl;
said process comprising:
reacting a compound of formula (IIIA)



(IIIA);

wherein:
A, R, R₁ and R₂ are as defined above; and
M is a hydroxyl protecting group;
with a suitable halogenating agent to obtain a compound of the formula IB:

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(IB); and

reacting the compound of formula (IB) with a suitable deprotecting agent to obtain the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is hydrogen.

15. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, further comprising reacting the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is hydrogen with a suitable esterification agent to obtain the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is C₁-C₁₈-acyl.
16. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, further comprising reacting the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is hydrogen with a suitable acid to form the corresponding acid addition salt of the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is hydrogen.
17. (New) The process as set forth in claim 15, further comprising reacting the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is C₁-C₁₈-acyl with a suitable acid to form the

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corresponding acid addition salt of the compound of formula (I) wherein Z is C₁-C₁₈-acyl.

18. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, wherein M is a silyl protecting group.
19. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, wherein M is trimethylsilyl group.
20. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, wherein said halogenation is carried out in the presence of a suitable base.
21. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, wherein said halogenation is carried out in the presence of potassium tert-butoxide.
22. (New) The process as set forth in claim 14, wherein said halogenating agent is of the formula:

